SIGNATURE - LEGIBILITY

Please note that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid requires that all hand-written orders be authenticated by the author. Therefore, it is essential that the name of the provider be easily identifiable and legible on all orders for services.

Proper identification of the physician’s full name is necessary to assure that only authorized individuals make entries into the medical record and is critical when follow-up clarifications are indicated for an order written for a patient. It is also necessary when determining whether the physician had privileges to order certain treatments or is ordering medications within the scope of their DEA.

Please remember that it is the policy of Coliseum Health System to require that all orders for service include a legible and complete signature AND the practitioners full printed name or 3-4 ID. Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE) remains the preferred method for order entry and satisfies the authentication requirements for orders.

Staff (Nurses, Unit Clerks) may not write the name of the practitioner for the doctor, even if they are a witness to the signature or recognize the signature. Unfortunately, orders that do not include a printed name must be returned by the Pharmacy, which may result in a delay of getting the requested medication to your patient.

Thank you for your attention to this. For more information, please refer to the CHS Signature-Legibility Policy.